

**II. REMARKS**

Claims 1-3, 5-9, and 12-23 are pending. Claims 4, and 10-11 have been cancelled. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found, e.g., at page 11, lines 30 to 31; page 10, lines 19 to 21; and throughout the specification. Support for new claim 12 can be found, e.g., at page 6, lines 10-12; at page 6, lines 18-24; at page 8, lines 9-10; and throughout the specification. Support for new claims 13-16 can be found, e.g., at page 14, lines 14-16; in the original claims; and throughout the specification. Support for new claims 17-22 can be found, e.g., at page 7, line 24 to page 8, line 6 and throughout the specification. Support for new claim 23 can be found, e.g., at page 9, lines 5-8 and throughout the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by virtue of this amendment.

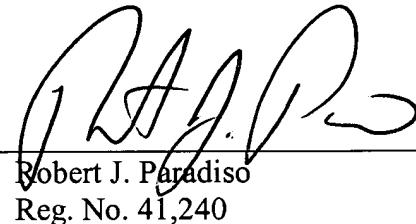
An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

It is believed that no fee is due for submission of this Amendment. If it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge said fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_



Robert J. Paradiso  
Reg. No. 41,240

Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC  
485 Seventh Avenue, 14th Floor  
New York, New York 10018  
(212) 736-1940